

REMARKS

Reconsideration and reexamination of this application are respectfully requested.

Applicant courteously acknowledges withdrawal of the rejection of claims 29 and 30 under 35 U.S.C. § 112, second paragraph, and of the rejection of claims 23, 26-30, and 32-34, under 35 U.S.C. § 112, first paragraph.

Applicant also courteously acknowledges the rejoining of claims 31, 103, and 104.

Claim Rejections Under 35 U.S.C. § 102:

The Office rejected claims 23, 26-31, 103, and 104 under 35 U.S.C. § 102(b) as anticipated by Ivey et al. (U.S. Patent No. 6,165,447, "Ivey"). Applicant respectfully disagrees and reserves the right to contest the rejection if made in related applications. Nevertheless, Applicant cancels these claims in the pending application and reserves the right to prosecute these claims in a related application. Therefore, this ground for rejection may be withdrawn.

Claim Objections:

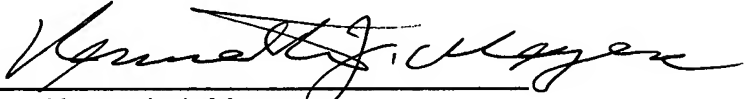
The Office rejected claims 32-34 for depending from rejected claims. (Office Action at p. 4.) Applicant has amended claim 32 to remove dependency from claim 23 by writing claim 32 in independent form. Therefore, claims 32-34 are allowable.

In view of the foregoing amendments and remarks, Applicant respectfully requests reconsideration and reexamination of this application and the timely allowance of the pending claims.

Please grant any extensions of time required to enter this response and charge any additional required fees to our Deposit Account No. 06-0916.

Respectfully submitted,

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